

Connecticut: Burden of Chronic Diseases, 1996

Cardiovascular Diseases

- Cardiovascular diseases were the most common cause of death in Connecticut in 1996, accounting for 43% of all deaths.
- Rates of death from cardiovascular diseases were 49% higher among men than among women.
- Ischemic heart disease accounted for 5,692 deaths, or 19% of all deaths.
- Rates of death from stroke were about twice as high among blacks and whites as among Hispanics.

Cancer

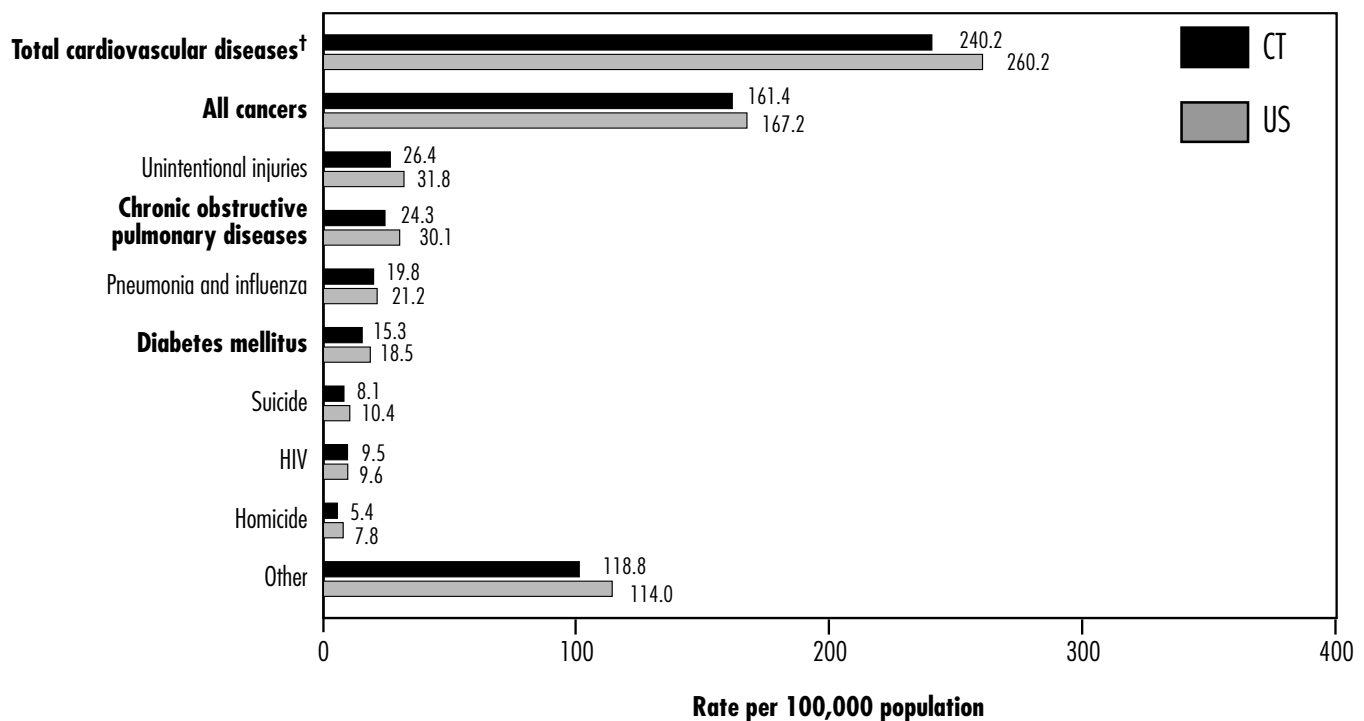
- Cancer accounted for 24% of all deaths in Connecticut in 1996.
- Rates of death from lung cancer were 69% higher among men than among women.

- The American Cancer Society estimates that 15,100 new cases of cancer will be diagnosed in Connecticut in 1999, including 2,000 new cases of lung cancer, 1,500 new cases of colorectal cancer, 2,200 new cases of prostate cancer, and 2,100 new cases of breast cancer in women.
- The American Cancer Society estimates that 7,000 Connecticut residents will die of cancer in 1999.

Diabetes

- In 1996, 115,434 adults in Connecticut had diagnosed diabetes.
- Diabetes was the underlying cause of 712 deaths and a contributing cause of an additional 1,893 deaths.
- Rates of death from diabetes were 180% higher among blacks than among whites.

Causes of Death, Connecticut Compared With United States, 1996*



*Deaths per 100,000, age adjusted to 1970 total U.S. population.

†Total cardiovascular disease rates include rates of death due to ischemic heart disease (107.6 per 100,000 in Connecticut and 131.0 per 100,000 in the United States) and rates of death due to stroke (35.5 per 100,000 in Connecticut and 42.0 per 100,000 in the United States).

Connecticut: Risk Factors and Preventive Services, 1997 and 1998

Risk Factors Among Adults

- In 1998, 33% of Hispanics, 21% of whites, and 20% of blacks in Connecticut reported current cigarette smoking.
- Thirty-nine percent of Hispanics, 36% of blacks, and 26% of whites reported no leisure-time physical activity.
- Eating fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day was reported by 75% of blacks, 72% of whites, and 72% of Hispanics.
- According to self-reported height and weight, 70% of blacks and 50% of whites were overweight.

Risk Factors Among High School Students

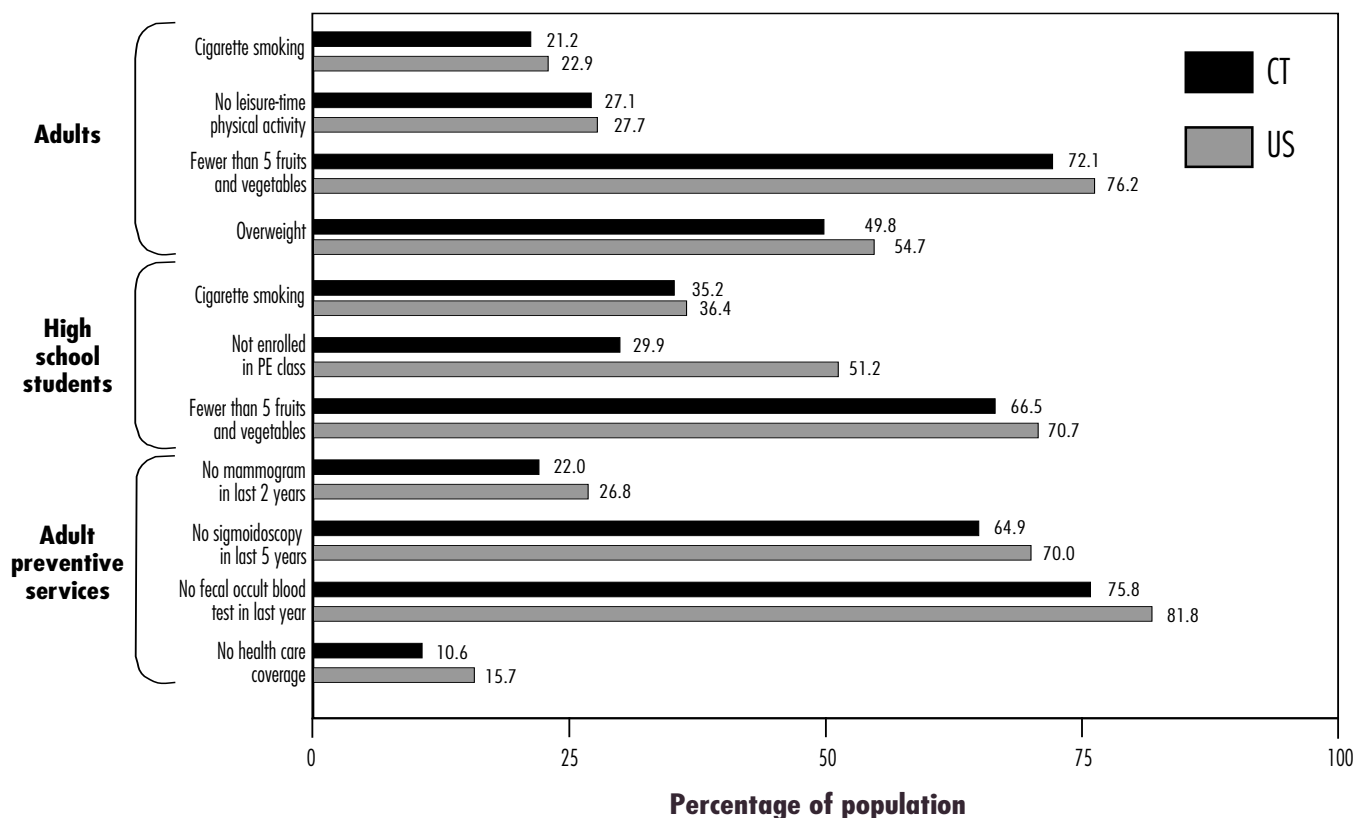
- Smoking cigarettes was reported by 37% of white and 30% of black students in Connecticut in 1997.
- Thirty-five percent of Hispanics and 30% of whites reported not being enrolled in physical education classes.

- Eating fewer than five servings of fruits and vegetables per day was reported by 71% of Hispanics and 67% of whites.

Preventive Services

- Of women aged 50 years or older, 22% reported not having had a mammogram within the last 2 years.
- Among Connecticut residents aged 50 years or older, 67% of women and 62% of men reported not having had a sigmoidoscopy within the last 5 years.
- Among adults aged 50 years or older, 78% of men and 74% of women reported not having had a fecal occult blood test within the last year.
- Among adults aged 18–64 years, no health care coverage was reported by 25% of Hispanics, compared with 9% of whites.

Risk Factors and Preventive Services, Connecticut Compared With United States



Source: CDC, Behavioral Risk Factor Surveillance System, 1997 and 1998.
CDC, Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System, 1997.